

REMARKS

The Examiner indicated that claim 21 is allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowed subject matter.

New claims 24 and 25 are the same as amended claims 1 and 13, respectively, except that in claims 24 and 24 the groups U and R do not recite: "a semi- or perfluorinated arylene group with 6 to 60 carbons".

New claim 26 is the original claim 13 with the added limitation that supports the allowance of claim 21, namely the limitation of: "wherein the second polymer having the repeating unit from the second monomer (2) includes an aqueous base soluble moiety, and wherein the aqueous base soluble moiety includes one of a fluorosulfonamide, a carboxylic acid, and a fluoroalcohol". Therefore, claim 26 should be allowed for at least the same reason that claim 21 is allowed.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8-10, 13-20, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Iwanaga *et al.* (JP 9-325492 and its machine-assisted English translation provided by Japan Patent Office).

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Iwanaga *et al.* (JP 9-325492 and its machine-assisted English translation provided by Japan Patent Office in view of Yoon *et al.* (US 6,537,727 B2).

Applicants respectfully traverse the §102(b) and §103(a) rejections with the following arguments.

35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 8-10, 13-20, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Iwanaga *et al.* (JP 9-325492 and its machine-assisted English translation provided by Japan Patent Office).

Applicants respectfully contend that Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation does not anticipate claims 1 and 13, because Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation does not teach each and every feature of claims 1 and 13. For example, Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation does not teach the following feature of the second polymer of claims 1 and 13: "wherein U is one of an alkylene group with 1 to 60 carbons, a semi- or perfluorinated alkylene group with 1 to 60 carbons, a semi- or perfluorinated arylene group with 6 to 60 carbons, -C(O)O-R, -C(O)-R, -OC(O)-R, -O-C(O)-C(O)-O-R, where R represents one of an alkylene group with 1 to 60 carbons, a semi- or perfluorinated alkylene group with 1 to 60 carbons, a semi- or perfluorinated arylene group with 6 to 60 carbons".

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 13, because Iwanaga allegedly teaches use of polyvinyl in the second polymer of the present invention. However, the preceding argument by Examiner is moot, because the amendment of claims 1 and 13 has deleted "an arylene group with 6 to 60 carbons" from the second polymer.

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully maintain that Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation does not anticipate claims 1 and 13, and that claims 1 and 13 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 2-5, 8-10, and 22-23 depend from claim 1, Applicants contend that claims 2-5, 8-10, and 22-23 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Since claims 14-20 depend from claim 13, Applicants contend that claims 14-20 are likewise in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. §103(a)

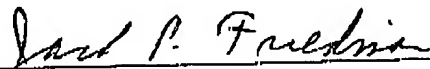
The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Iwanaga *et al.* (JP 9-325492) and its machine-assisted English translation provided by Japan Patent Office in view of Yoon *et al.* (US 6,537,727 B2).

Since claim 7 depends from claim 1, which Applicants have argued *supra* to not be unpatentable over Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), Applicants maintain that claim 7 is likewise not unpatentable over Iwanaga and its machine-assisted English translation in view of Yoon under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below. The Director is hereby authorized to charge and/or credit Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

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